

HERE AND THERE - Cont'd.....

ELECTION CHANGE - for the change in the procedure is that when two or three people run for Chief, only one is elected and the council loses the service of the other people who could be very useful if they were serving on it.

The procedure for the elections on the reserve has not been changed by the department since 1959. Prior to that Chiefs were chosen on a hereditary basis.

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INDIANS SEEKING HELP

(Micmac News) In an attempt to shake loose from Truro Town Council a share of the extra equalization grants made available to municipalities this year, the Millbrook Indian Band Council has tried to enlist the aid of Minister of Municipal Affairs, J. Fraser Mooney.

Over a month ago the band councillors and a provincial government liaison officer for Indian Affairs, had a meeting with Mr. Mooney at his office in Halifax.

The meeting was requested by the Millbrook representatives, and revolved around Truro Town Council's refusal to give the Indians a share of the extra monies.

Early in July the band council lobbied town council for a proportionate share of the \$172,482 which the latter had received from the provincial government in three equalization grants of \$57,494 each.

The Millbrook band claims they are entitled to \$3,250 based on a per capita rate of \$13 per person.

Millbrook councillor, Lawrence Paul told Truro Town Council at the time that: "We were counted as part of the municipal unit when the grants were computed, and some of that money is rightfully ours."

If the town would hand over the sum of money believed by the Indians to be rightfully theirs, Mr. Paul said it would be used towards the construction of a community hall on the reserve.

Truro council has steadfastly refused to turn over any of the extra equalization money, arguing that the Indians do not pay property tax on their lands as do town homeowners.

In desperation, the Millbrook representatives took their case to the Mini-

HERE AND THERE - Cont'd.....

ster of Municipal Affairs, but here too they seem to have met with far less luck than they had hoped.

Mr. Mooney agreed to write to the band, but his letter seems to indicate a hesitation on the Minister's part in being drawn too deeply into the fracas.

Mr. Mooney's letter says he outlined to the Millbrook Council "that a per capita formulated was utilized for distribution purposes only."

Mr. Mooney added that the dispersal of such funds "was left to the discretion of the municipalities involved."

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MOOSONEE INDIANS FRUSTRATED

(CP) The Indians of Moosonee are "frustrated" because they have no voice in the development of their James Bay community, Fred Young (NDP-Toronto Yorkview) told the provincial government, Tuesday, October 20th.

Mr. Young told a committee studying the estimates of the ministry of natural resources that the Indian people suggested a polar bear zoo be established in Moosonee but the idea wasn't being heard at Queen's Park.

"The feeling is that we have a Polar Bear Express going to Moosonee and people ... look forward to seeing polar bears when they get to Moosonee and of course there are no polar bears there."

Leo Bernier, minister of natural resources, said the province is studying a form of municipal government other than the five-man appointed council, that will "bring in a more democratic way of elections."

He said that he has discussed the idea of a polar bear park with the Chairman of the Ontario Northland Railway which operates the Polar Bear Express to Moosonee from Cochrane.

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INDIANS, MINISTERS TO MEET

Chief James Mason of the Saugeen Reserve and five members of the Union of Ontario Indians' board of directors set up a meeting with government ministers.

The Indians are seeking better welfare payments and recreation grants.

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